

Appl. No.: 10/525,540

Amdt. Dated November 16, 2007

Response to Office Action Mailed August 20, 2007

REMARKS:

Applicant appreciates the time and care the examiner has taken in examining the application. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims, and states the following in support.

Remarks on the Amendments Presented:

In the amendment above, claim 3 has been cancelled.

Claim 4 was deemed allowed in the most recent Office action. Claim 4 has been slightly amended herein, solely for the purpose of improving its grammar and clarity by replacing the term "an illuminating condition" with "an illumination condition of said illumination optical system," in its last paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that this amendment does not affect any of the indications of the allowability of claim 4 as set forth by the examiner; and that the claim remains allowable. Accordingly, Claim 4 should again be allowed.

Claims 5 and 12 have been amended so that they depend from allowed claim 4 as amended. Accordingly, it also is respectfully submitted that claims 5 and 12 now should be allowed.

Claim 6 has been amended to depend on claim 5, and hence upon allowed claim 4, and thus should now be allowed.

Allowed Claims 8, 10-11, 13, 14, and 18-20 are presented as previously allowed, with no amendment.

Claim 15 was deemed allowed in the most recent Office action. Claim 15 has been slightly amended herein, solely for the purpose of improving its grammar and clarity by replacing the term "an illuminating condition" with "the illumination condition," in its last paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that this amendment does not affect any of the indications of the allowability of claim 15 as set forth by the examiner; and that the claim remains allowable. Accordingly, Claim 15 should again be allowed.

Claim 16 has been amended so that it depends from allowed claim 15 as amended. Accordingly, it also is respectfully submitted that claim 16 now should be allowed.

Claim 17 has been amended to depend on claim 16, and hence upon allowed claim 15, and thus should now be allowed.

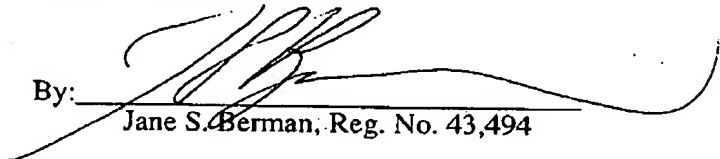
New Claim 21 depends from claim 4 and thus should be deemed allowable. Support for the amendment is found in the original specification at p. 2, lines 11-17, among other places. No new matter is presented.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for prompt allowance and that all of the objections, rejections and requirements raised in the Office action have been met. Early, favorable treatment of this application is requested.

The examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned with any questions or comments so that efforts may be made to resolve any remaining issues.

Extension Request and Deposit Account Charge Authorization. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including fees for any necessary extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a) for filing this communication, which extension is hereby requested, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305 of Chapman and Cutler LLP.

Respectfully submitted,


By: 
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

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I hereby certify that the attached correspondence, namely: Response to Office Action, was transmitted by facsimile on the date listed above, to the U.S. Patent Office at the facsimile number listed above, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

Signature: 
Typed Name of Person Signing this Certificate: Jane S. Berman

Date of Signature: November 16, 2007